

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP99/07274 filed October 1, 1999**

Invention" and insert the following new section heading and new paragraph:

--BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

P.S. The present invention relates generally to additives for the processing of plastics, the additives being in a granular form, characterized in that the granules are present in the form of spherical and/or cylindrical granules with a length-to-diameter ratio of 1:1 to 3:1. The present invention also relates to compositions containing such granules for the processing of plastics and to the use of the granules as auxiliaries for the processing of plastics. --

At page 2, between lines 22 and 23, please add the following new section heading:

P.S. **--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--**

At page 15, between lines 1 and 2, please add the following new paragraph:

A4 --What is claimed is:--

On a separate, new page 16, following page 15, please add the following new section heading and paragraph containing an Abstract of the Disclosure:

--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A5 Compositions containing at least one plastic additive in granular form wherein the granules are spherical and/or cylindrical with a length-to-diameter ratio of from 1:1 to 3:1; are disclosed. Processes for preparing such granular compositions, and methods of stabilizing plastics during processing using such compositions are also disclosed.--

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 6-25, as follows:

A6 --6. (New) A composition comprising granules containing at least one plastic additive, the granules having a length-to-diameter ratio of 1:1 to 3:1.--